

SECTION 4

Reading for Understanding

► Key Ideas

BEFORE, YOU LEARNED

A combination of factors brought about an American victory.

NOW YOU WILL LEARN

Americans emerged from the Revolution as citizens of a unified nation that valued the ideal of liberty.

► Vocabulary

TERMS & NAMES

Treaty of Paris the 1783 treaty that ended the Revolutionary War

Elizabeth Freeman enslaved African American who won her freedom in court

Richard Allen African-American preacher who helped start the Free African Society

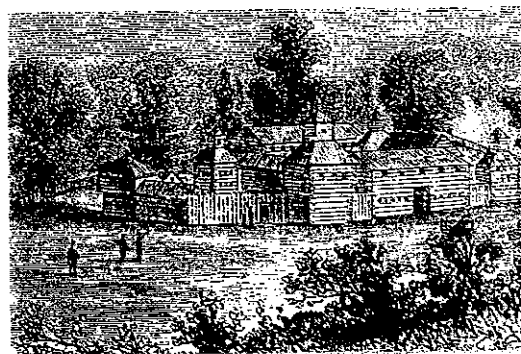
Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom statement of religious liberty, written by Thomas Jefferson

BACKGROUND VOCABULARY

disputes (dis•PYOOTS) disagreements

outposts (OWT•posts) military bases, usually located on the frontier

nondenominational not favoring any particular religion



Visual Vocabulary
outpost

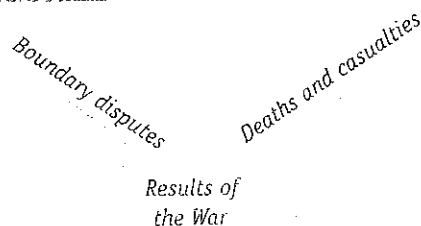
► Reading Strategy

Re-create the spider diagram shown at right. As you read and respond to the KEY QUESTIONS, use the main branches to note categories of facts about results of the war. Add stems to record important details in each category.

See Skillbuilder Handbook, page R6.



CATEGORIZE





The Legacy of the War


One American's Story

Haym Salomon, a Jew living in Poland, moved to New York before the Revolution in search of liberty. He soon became a successful merchant and banker. During the war, Salomon supported the Patriot cause.

When the British captured New York in 1776, Salomon was arrested. Because he spoke many languages, the British thought he could help them deal with foreign merchants, so they let him out of prison. Unfortunately, prison had permanently damaged his health.

In 1778, Salomon fled to Philadelphia. He loaned the new government more than \$600,000, which was never repaid. Like many other Americans, Salomon had sacrificed his health and fortune to help his country survive.



Haym Salomon  Financial Hero

A 1975 U.S. postage stamp honors Haym Salomon.

Costs of the War

▼ **KEY QUESTION** What were the costs of the war?

No one knows exactly how many people died in the war, but eight years of fighting took a terrible toll. An estimated 25,700 Americans died in the war, and 1,400 remained missing. Over 8,200 Americans were wounded. Some were left with permanent disabilities, such as amputated limbs. The British military suffered about 10,000 deaths.

Debts and Losses Many soldiers who survived the war left the army with no money. They had received little or no pay. Instead of back pay, the government gave some soldiers certificates for land in the West. Many men sold that land to get money for food and other basic needs.

Both the Congress and the states had borrowed money to finance the conflict. The war left the nation with a debt of about \$27 million—a debt that would prove difficult to pay off.

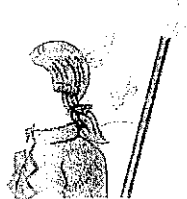
Those who supported the losing side in the war also suffered. Thousands of Loyalists lost their property. Between 60,000 and 100,000 Loyalists

PAYING FOR THE WAR

The Continental Congress—our first national government—did not have the power to tax; it asked for funds and then hoped that the states would pay. It did have the power to borrow, however. Fighting the Revolutionary War cost America around \$100 million, and by 1782, the new U.S. government was approximately \$30 million in debt. To fund the Continental Army, the United States borrowed money in several ways.

TREASURY NOTES

A treasury note states the government's promise to repay a specified amount at a specified date. Notes were sold to **patriotic investors** and to **foreign countries** such as France.



CERTIFICATES

Printed money, known as "certificates," could be exchanged for an amount of silver—if the government had enough. This is how many "**regulars**" (soldiers), **farmers**, and **tradespeople** were paid.



PERSONAL NOTES

Wealthy individuals, such as Haym Salomon and Robert Morris—the country's first superintendent of finance—issued personal notes (or loans) to pay government expenses.



Connect Today Do you think it's a good idea for a modern government to borrow money? Why or why not?

left the United States during and after the war. Among them were several thousand African Americans and Native Americans, including Mohawk chief Joseph Brant. Most of the Loyalists went to Canada. There they settled new towns and provinces. They also brought English traditions to areas that the French had settled. To this day, Canada has both French and English as official languages.

The Revolution had been a civil war that left both Patriots and Loyalists with bitter memories. Patriots found it especially difficult to forgive the former American general Benedict Arnold. In 1780 Arnold had betrayed his country by trying to turn over an American fort to the British. Throughout American history, the name Benedict Arnold is used to mean traitor.

SUMMARIZE List some of the costs of the war.

The Treaty of Paris

KEY QUESTION What did America gain most from the Treaty of Paris?

Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, and John Jay began formal peace negotiations with the British on September 27, 1782. The final **Treaty of Paris**, which ended the Revolutionary War, was signed on September 3, 1783.

Favorable Terms The Americans won favorable terms in the peace treaty:

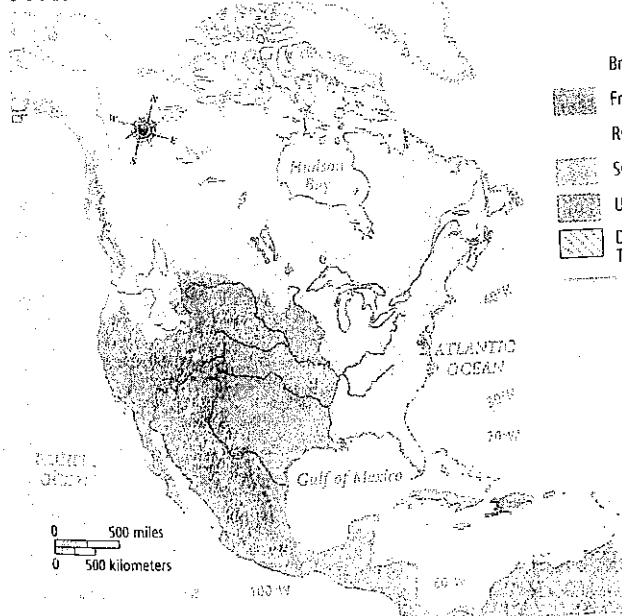
- The United States was independent.
- Its boundaries would be the Mississippi River on the west, Canada on the north, and Spanish Florida on the south.
- The United States would receive the right to fish off Canada's Atlantic Coast, near Newfoundland and Nova Scotia.
- Each side would repay debts it owed the other.
- The British would return any enslaved persons they had captured.
- Congress would recommend that the states return any property they had seized from Loyalists.

Neither Britain nor the United States fully lived up to the treaty's terms. Americans did not repay the prewar debts they owed British merchants or return Loyalist property. The British did not return runaway slaves.

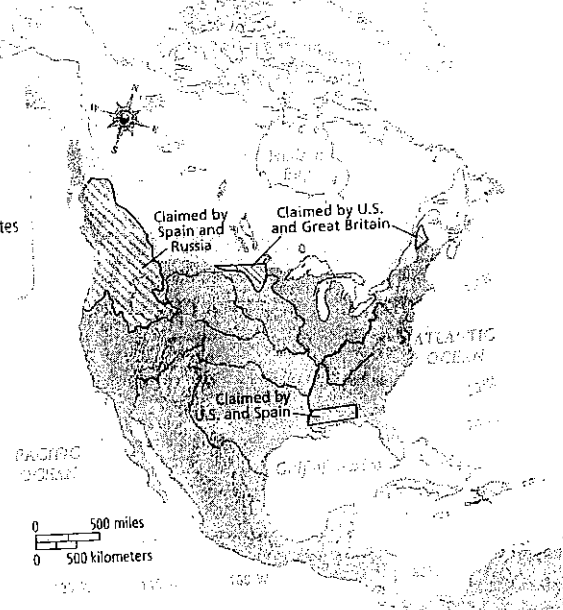
Boundary Disputes The Treaty of Paris led to boundary **disputes**, or disagreements, with Spain, who could now claim control of both banks of the Mississippi river for over 100 miles north of the Gulf of Mexico. This Spanish control threatened American shipping. In the northwest, the British refused to give up military **outposts**, or bases, in the Great Lakes area, such as Fort Detroit.

COMPARING Prewar and Postwar Boundaries

Prewar Boundaries 1775



Postwar Boundaries 1783



Connect Geography & History

1. **Place** What was the southern limit of British territory in 1775?
2. **Evaluate** Which foreign nation benefited most from the Treaty of Paris?



Joseph Brant, or Thayendanegea, was not born to be a chief but earned the esteem of his people by his leadership. The giant shell he wears is a symbol of wealth and status.

The Threat to Native American Lands The Treaty of Paris redrew the national boundaries with little concern for Native American interests. In Chapter 5, you learned that the British had attempted to keep white settlers away from Native American territory by establishing the Proclamation Line of 1763. Because of this, many tribes had supported the British in the war. But in the treaty, the British handed over Native American lands without even consulting their former allies. When Mohawk chief Joseph Brant heard the news, he was horrified by the betrayal.

PRIMARY SOURCE

“When I joined the English in the beginning of the War, it was purely on account of my forefathers’ engagements with the King. I always looked upon these engagements, or covenants between the King and the Indian nation, as a sacred thing.”

—Joseph Brant, 1783

Native Americans who lived east of the Mississippi found themselves living within the boundaries of a new nation that was intent on westward expansion. Their lands were now at risk.

△ **MAIN IDEAS & DETAILS** Identify what America gained from the Treaty of Paris.

Creating a New Nation

▽ **KEY QUESTION** What ideals emerged from the Revolution?

“Liberty” had been the rallying cry of the Revolution as Americans freed themselves from British rule. Now, the success of the Revolution challenged the existing world order. For the first time in the Americas, a colonial rebellion against an imperial power had succeeded. By destroying British authority, the Revolution offered political reformers a chance to prove that republicanism, the idea that a country can be governed by the people, and without a king, could work. Imperial powers around the world began to fear this new threat.

At the same time, the war created a new nation—one that valued the ideal of liberty. As Americans built their new society, the ideal of liberty became one of the most important legacies of the Revolution.

New State and National Governments As early as 1775 British rule had become ineffective in many areas of the colonies. Eventually, in May of 1776, the Continental Congress advised the colonies to establish new government. By 1777 nearly all the former colonies had adopted written constitutions. Two colonies—Connecticut and Rhode Island—retained the governments established by their royal charters.

All the new state constitutions contained some enumeration of individual rights and liberties. For instance, Virginia's new Constitution of 1776 was based on the Virginia Declaration of Rights. It protected many rights and guaranteed freedom of the press and freedom of religion. Some states, including Delaware, prohibited slavery and a state-supported religion. Georgia's constitution established public schools.

The states also realized early on that they needed a national government, if only to conduct the war. By 1777, the Continental Congress had drafted a plan: the Articles of Confederation. (The new government finally took charge in 1781.) The Articles gave very limited powers to the central government—little more than waging war and signing treaties. (See Chapter 8.)

Freedom and Slavery During the Revolution, some people began to see a conflict between slavery and the ideal of liberty. In response, Vermont outlawed slavery, and Pennsylvania passed a law to free slaves gradually. Individual African Americans also fought to end slavery, sometimes suing for freedom in the courts. For example, **Elizabeth Freeman** sued for her freedom in a Massachusetts court and won. Her victory in 1781 and other similar cases ended slavery in that state.

Freed African Americans formed their own institutions. For example, in Philadelphia **Richard Allen** helped start the Free African Society, a **nondenominational** group that encouraged people to help each other. (*Nondenominational* means not favoring any particular religion.) Richard Allen had earned the money to buy his freedom by working for the Revolutionary forces. As a preacher, Allen's leadership was shaped by his belief that he had a special duty to teach and help people, of all backgrounds, who had suffered from discrimination. Allen also founded the African Methodist Episcopal Church, the first African-American church in the United States.

Despite the efforts to end slavery in the North, in the South slavery continued. However, many people, including Southern plantation owners, were troubled by the new nation's dependence on slavery. In 1784, Thomas Jefferson, a slave owner himself, wrote of his fears for America if slavery were allowed to continue: "I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; that his justice cannot sleep forever."

Connecting History

Regionalism

The South's dependence on slavery would lead to a terrible civil war that threatened to tear apart the United States itself. You will see this theme emerge as you study events leading to the Civil War.

Richard Allen




Defining Religious Freedom For many Americans, central to the ideal of liberty was the idea that religion is a private matter and that people should have the right to choose and practice their personal religious beliefs. People such as James Madison and Thomas Jefferson called for a "separation of church and state," meaning that the state should not be involved in religious affairs.

In 1777 Thomas Jefferson proposed his **Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom**. In it, he claimed that people have a "natural right" to freedom of opinion, including religious opinion. Jefferson opposed state laws that prohibited Jews or Catholics from holding public office. He also opposed the practice of using tax money to support churches, because, he wrote, "to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves, is sinful and tyrannical."


Jefferson's statute was eventually adopted as law in Virginia. Later, it became the basis of the religious rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights in the U.S. Constitution.

Uniting the States For almost two centuries each colony had been governed independently of its neighbors. The colonies had been quarrelsome and often uncooperative. However, as the war turned colonies into states, Americans saw how important it was for these states to work together as a nation. The great challenge that lay ahead was how to remain united as a nation of independent states, despite regional and religious differences.

 **SUMMARIZE** Describe the ideals that emerged from the Revolution.

4

Section Assessment

 **ONLINE QUIZ**
For test practice, go to
Interactive Review @ ClassZone.com

TERMS & NAMES

1. Explain the importance of
 - Treaty of Paris
 - Richard Allen
 - Elizabeth Freeman
 - Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom

USING YOUR READING NOTES

2. **Categorize** List and categorize the major results of the Revolutionary War.

Boundary disputes
Deaths and casualties
Results of the War

KEY IDEAS

3. What groups gained least from the Treaty of Paris?
4. How did the goals of the Revolution guide Americans toward a more just society after the war?

CRITICAL THINKING

5. **Connect Economics & History** How did the Treaty of Paris protect America's economic interests?
6. **Causes and Effects** How did the Patriot victory affect Native Americans?
7. **Historical Perspective** What might have happened if, during the peace negotiations, each state had tried to negotiate independently?
8. **Writing** **Citizenship Report** Use the Internet to research Elizabeth Freeman and Richard Allen. Write a brief report explaining how their efforts helped improve their communities.